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Statement of Representative Benjamin Manglona delivered
on July 28, 1970.

Mr. Speaker:

First of all, I would like to say that the members of the Micronesian Political Status Delegation must be commended for their well-written Report which has been submitted to this Congress.

Mr. Speaker, although I am in support of the Report, I wish to make some observations on it. First of all, while discussing the Report, there are certain areas in which I, as a member of the Delegation, was successful in deleting, which will directly affect my constituents in the Marianas District. For example, there is one part in the Report which states that the Micronesians do not want to be Americanized or become a part of the United States. I do not want that portion of the Report where it states that the United States proposal of Commonwealth is unacceptable to the Delegation. I want to make it clear that, based on the plebiscite taken in the Marianas District just recently, it is the feeling of the people that they want to join with the United States in some form of association. I want to make this feeling known to this Congress. This is the reason for my having some reservations on the Report.

For the record, I wish at this time to say that we should not entirely say that the Micronesian Political Status Delegation rejects the Report. I think the United States' proposal has merit and I believe that they can accommodate some of the things that we want negotiated.